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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/812,754	03/20/2001	Jeffery Davis	10010106-1	8894

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EXAMINER

GOOD JOHNSON, MOTILEWA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2672

13

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/812,754

Applicant(s)

DAVIS ET AL.

Examiner

Motilewa A. Good-Johnson

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 June 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to the following communications: Application, filed 03/20/2001, IDS, paper #2, filed 03/20/2001; Amendment A, filed 06/16/2003; Amendment B, filed 10/24/2003; Amendment C, filed 03/15/2004.

This office action is made non-final.

2. Claims 1-4 and 6-24 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 19 and 23 are independent claims. Claim 5 has been canceled. Claim 19 has been amended.

3. The present title of the application is "Scrolling Method Using Screen Pointing Device" (as originally filed).

4. In view of the Appeal Brief filed on 06/11/2004, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. New grounds of rejection set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 6-14 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen, U.S. Patent Number 5,568,603, "Method and System for Transparent Mode Switching Between Two Different Interfaces", 10/22/1996.

Regarding claim 1, a method of scrolling through information displayed on a display screen . . . comprising: providing a first plurality of user selectable scrolling zones on the display screen, each scrolling zone in the first plurality of scrolling zones associated with a scrolling technique and corresponding to scrolling in a first direction, each of the scrolling zones in the first plurality being positioned substantially adjacent to a first edge of the display screen (figures 5A-5B, col. 6, lines 27-31); providing a second plurality of user selectable scrolling zones on the display screen, each scrolling zone in the second scrolling zones associated with a scrolling technique and corresponding to scrolling in a second direction, each of the scrolling zones in the second plurality of being substantially adjacent to a second edge of the display screen, wherein the first edge is opposite to the second edge (figures 5A-5B, col. 6, lines 32-35); receiving zone selection information identifying a first one of the scrolling zones selected by a user with the screen pointing device (col. 6, lines 40-44); scrolling through the displayed

information based on the scrolling technique associated with the selected scrolling zone. (col. 6, lines 35-39)

Regarding claim 6, Chen discloses first plurality of scrolling zones is positioned substantially adjacent to a top of the display screen . . . second plurality of scrolling zones is positioned substantially adjacent to a bottom of the display screen . . . (figure 5A, 5B, col. 7, lines 41-53)

Regarding claim 7, Chen discloses first plurality of scrolling zones is positioned adjacent to a left edge of the display screen . . . second . . . positioned substantially adjacent to a right edge of the display screen . . . (figure 5A, col. 7, lines 23-26 and lines 33-40)

Regarding claim 8, Chen discloses providing a third and fourth plurality of user selectable scrolling zones on the display screen, each scrolling zone in the third plurality of scrolling zones associated with a scrolling technique and corresponding to scrolling in a third direction that is different from the first and the second directions. . . (figures 5A and 5B)

Regarding claim 9, Chen discloses display a first plurality of zone representation on the display screen . . . (figure 5A)

Regarding claim 10, Chen discloses zone representations indicates a scrolling technique. . . (figure 5A)

Regarding claim 11, Chen discloses zone representations indicates a boundary of a user selectable scrolling zone. . . (figure 5A, col. 4, lines 60-67)

Regarding claim 12, Chen discloses scrolling techniques associated with the scrolling zones are user definable . . . (col. 4, lines 51-59)

Regarding claim 13, Chen discloses user selectable scrolling zones are positioned directly adjacent to one another and spread substantially an entire width of the display screen. (figure 5A)

Regarding claim 14, Chen discloses user selectable scrolling zones are spaced apart from each other and spread across substantially an entire width of the display screen. (figure 5A)

Regarding claims 17 and 18, Chen discloses providing at least one user selectable action zone . . . varying the display modifying action associated with the at least one action zone . . . (col. 9, lines 1-9)

Regarding claim 19, Chen discloses an electronic device comprising: a display screen (figure 2, element 20) for displaying information, the display screen including a screen pointer (figure 2, element 50) controllable by a user with a screen pointing device (col. 5, line 66 – col. 6, line 4), the display screen including a first plurality of user selectable scrolling zones (figure 5A), each user selectable scrolling zone in the first plurality of scrolling zones associated with a scrolling technique and having a user selectable are defined by hidden boundaries (figure 4, col. 5, lines 26-30); and a controller (figure 2, element 30) for receiving zone selection information identifying a first one of the scrolling zones selected by a user with the screen pointing device (col. 5, lines 31-45), the controller configured to cause information displayed on the display

screen to scroll based on the scrolling technique associated with the selected scrolling zone. (col. 5, lines 40-45)

5. Claims 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Belfiore et al., U.S. Patent Number 5,726,687, "Auto-Scrolling with Mouse Speed Computation During Dragging", 03/10/1998.

Regarding claim 23, Belfiore discloses a method for scrolling through information displayed on a display screen of an electronic device, the display screen including a screen pointer controllable by a user with a screen pointing device, the method comprising: receiving mode selection information from a user, the mode selection information indicating that a user has selected a scroll mode (col. 5, lines 1-2, determining if the mouse is position over a scroll region, which Examiner interprets as receiving mode selection information for a selected scroll mode); receiving movement information provided by a user with the screen pointing device (col. 5, lines 4-6, determining the speed of the mouse, which Examiner interprets as movement information about a screen pointing device); determining a first movement direction and a first movement velocity based on the received movement information (col. 3, lines 52-55); moving the screen pointer based on the received movement information (col. 6, line 1); and scrolling the displayed information on the display screen in a direction corresponding to the first movement direction and in an amount based on the first

movement velocity, the scrolling amount greater than the amount of movement of the screen pointer. (col. 6, line 57 – col. 7, line 50)

Regarding claim 24, wherein at least one of the scrolling zones is defined by hidden boundaries that are invisible to a user of the electronic device. (col. , lines)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 2-4 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Belfiore et al.

Regarding claims 2-4 and 20-22, Chen discloses scrolling regions corresponding to a scrolling technique.

However it is noted that Chen fails to disclose scrolling technique corresponds to a scrolling speed (scrolling granularity); (line scrolling, paragraph scrolling and page scrolling).

Belfiore discloses scrolling technique with speed computation (col. 3, lines 59-63); scrolling granularity (col. 7, line 50); (line scrolling, page scrolling and other units of

granularity, col. 7, lines 47-51, which Examiner interprets as inclusive of paragraph granularity)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the scroll regions disclosed in Chen, the scrolling techniques disclosed in Belfiore to allow a user to scroll at a desired rate and efficiently to increase productivity of users.

8. Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Tiphane.

Regarding claim 15, Chen discloses scrolling regions organized into eight possible regions for scrolling, col. 6, lines 27-40)

However, it is noted that Chen fails to disclose scrolling zones including nine scrolling zones organized into columns and rows.

Tiphane discloses scrolling zones includes nine scrolling zones organized into three columns and three rows . . . (Tiphane discloses in figures 4A and 4B)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include nine scrolling regions organized in three columns and three rows as disclosed in Tiphane, because Chen discloses the region may be adjusted by the user to expanded the bounding are and view the changing mode, i.e. the scroll mode, inside the reference region, col. 7, lines 54-60, thus accommodating the three rows and three columns in the center of the display

Regarding claim 16, Chen discloses scrolling mode and transparently switching between a scrolling modes.

Chen fails to disclose sensing a current position of the screen pointer; identifying a scrolling zone that is positioned near the current position of the screen pointer; and automatically positioning the screen pointer over the identified scrolling zone.

Tiphane discloses calling the application scroll box generated by the pointing subsystem and signaling the menu subsystem to select the scroll button, col. 6, line 56 – col. 7, line 7.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include in the invention of Chen the automatic positioning of the screen point to select the scroll button as disclosed in Tiphane, to allow a user to automatically switch between the modes and to also facilitate fast operation of the desired scroll mode operation.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

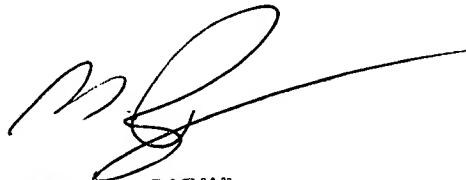
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Motilewa A. Good-Johnson whose telephone number is (703) 305-3939. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Razavi can be reached on (703) 305-4713. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Motilewa A. Good-Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

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